

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 HA-05 IO-14 SSM-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /093 W

-----033976 062130Z /70

R 051504Z MAY 78

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 898

USICA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS JERUSALEM 1294

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PGOV, IS

SUBJ: WEST BANK PRESS REACTION FELDMAN PRESIDENTIAL INTERVIEW

REF: JERUSALEM 1274

1. AL QUDS ABANDONED IT RECENT MODERATION TOWARD U.S. POLICY IN THE AREA WITH TIS REACTION TO REMARKS ON THE BEGIN PLAN ATTRIBUTED BY TRUDE FELDMAN TO PRESIDENT CARTER. IN ITS FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL OF APRIL 30 THE PAPER OPINED "PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATEMENTS...TRIGGERED DISCONTENT AND DISMAY AMONG ARABS.... IN ADDITION TO ITS CONTENT, ITS TIMING (DURING THE BEGIN VISIT) MAKES IT APPEAR EVEN WORSE. BEGIN DID NOT CARRY ANY NEW IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS TO WASHINGTON... CARTER'S STATEMENTS WILL ONLY ADD TO HIS HARDENED POSITION AND INTRANSIGENCE."

2. OCCASIONAL COMMENTATOR JUDGE TAISSIR KANAAN ADDED MAY 4. IN A FRONT PAGE COLUMN "UPON READING OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S OPPOSITION TO A PALESTINIAN STATE AND HIS SUPPORT OF BEGIN'S PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHING A WEAK SELECTMANSHIP (MUKHTARSHIP) FOR THE WEST BANK, THIS WRITER COULD NOT KEEP HIS SILENCE. WE CANNOT CONCEIVE HOW ALL THE

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EXPENDED EFFORT CAN RESULT IN THIS SELECTMANSHIP OFFERED BY BEGIN AND PROPAGATED BY CARTER. HE (PRESIDENT CARTER) MUST BE TOLD FRANKLY THAT A SOLUTION NOT BASED ON PALESTINIAN RIGHTS.. WILL NOT SURVIVE."

3. COMMENT: A POSITIVE WAIT-AND-SEE ATTITUDE ON U.S. MIDDLE EAST POLICY BY MODERATE AL QUDS AT LEAST TEMPORATILY EVAPRATED WITH THE

ABOVE COMMENTARY. ONLY LAST WEEK THE PAPER ASSESSED WHITE HOUSE
WITHDRAWAL OF THE PACKAGE TREATMENT OF THE AIRCRAFT DEAL
AS A "MANOEUVER" DESIGNED TO GAIN ASSENT OF CONGRESS AND
PART OF THE PRESIDENT'S STYLE OF "RELEASING MANY TRIAL
BALLOONS TO TAKE THE PULSE OF AMERICAN AND FOREIGN PUBLIC
OPINION." KRUSE

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Message Attributes

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